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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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January is Police Citizens Academy Recruitment Month

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The Miami Beach Citizens' Police Academy (CPA) presents a look at the internal operations, values, and philosophy of the Miami Beach Police Department. The Academy is a 36-hour block of instruction designed to give the public a working knowledge of the "how's and why's" of the department, and the citizens' role in their interaction with the police. It consists of a series of classes, held once each week for three hours. The instruction is comprehensive, covering a different area of the police department each week.

The class is made up of a cross section of Miami Beach's diverse community. Homemakers, laborers, professionals, students, ministers, business, civic, and social leaders are encouraged to apply for admission. The minimum age for enrollment is 21 and you must work or live in the City of Miami Beach to be eligible to attend.

The Miami Beach's CPA was created to provide enough information to the citizens who attend so they may make informed judgments about the police department and police activity. Students are expected to share this realistic view of the department with other citizens to improve the efficiency of law enforcement in their neighborhoods. The department, in turn, becomes more aware of the feelings and concerns of the community from the participants interaction and input.

The Miami Beach's Citizens' Police Academy training includes:

- Community Oriented Policing
- Firearms Familiarization
- Patrol Procedures
- Traffic Enforcement
- Internal Affairs
- Specialized Units
- Crime Prevention Programs
- Criminal Investigations

Please log on to [www.miamibeachfl.gov](http://www.miamibeachfl.gov) to review the 2004 class schedule, as well as, download an application.

Welcome aboard!  
Detective Bobby Hernandez